

# Weekly Disease Surveillance Report

## 2023 Reporting Week 04: January 22 — January 28



This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

### COVID-19 Trends

COVID-19 levels are decreasing for Okaloosa. **Recommended actions based on current COVID-19 Community Level (Low):** Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. People may choose to wear a mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

On December 20, 2022, the CDC released a health alert network (HAN) for [Important Updates on COVID-19 Therapeutics for Treatment and Prevention](#) which provides information on COVID-19 Omicron sublineages with reduced susceptibility to specific monoclonal antibody treatments.

### ILI Trends

Influenza-like illness (ILI) in Okaloosa increased for 2023 Week 04 and is in line with the normal elevated average (current level: 3.59%; normal average: 3.0%). Please stay vigilant, review the weekly [Florida FLU REVIEW](#) for statewide information, and continue to promote vaccination.

On December 14, 2022, the CDC released a HAN for [Interim Guidance for Clinicians to Prioritize Antiviral Treatment of Influenza in the Setting of Reduced Oseltamivir](#) (e.g., Tamiflu). To date, the FDA and the Florida Department of Health have not received notification of shortages. General information on availability of antiviral medications can be found at [Influenza 2022-2023 \(fda.gov\)](#).

### Contact Us:

**Florida Department of Health  
in Okaloosa County**

**Epidemiology Section**

**24/7 Disease Reporting:  
850-833-9065**

**Confidential Fax:**

**850-833-7577**

**[okaloosaepi@flhealth.gov](mailto:okaloosaepi@flhealth.gov)**

## COVID-19 Snapshot

### Week 04 Community Level

COVID-19 Community Level	New Hospital Admissions per 100K Population (Past 7 Days)	% Staffed Beds with COVID-19 Patients (Past 7 Days)
<b>LOW</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

### PREVIOUS WEEK COMMUNITY LEVEL: MEDIUM

New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

### Week 04 Community Transmission Level

COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
<b>HIGH</b>	<b>64.1</b>	<b>16.1%</b>

### PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH

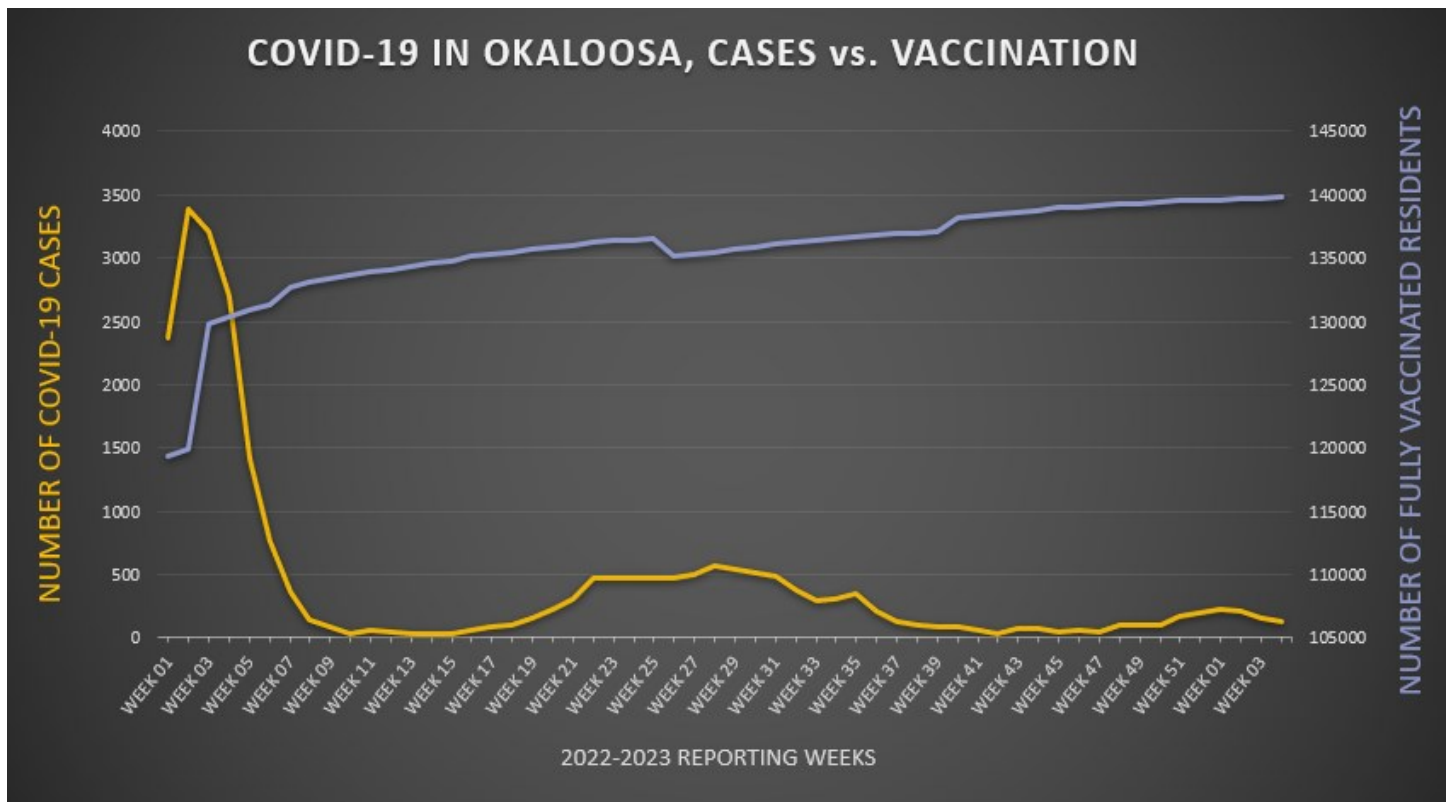
<b>Low</b>	<10	<5.0%
<b>Moderate</b>	10-49	5.0 - 7.9%
<b>Substantial</b>	50-99	8.0 - 9.9%
<b>High</b>	>100	>10.0%

Community Level and Community Risk/Transmission Level are the color of the higher risk level for each of the two indicators. Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



# COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 04: January 22— January 28



**Figure 1:** Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.

Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

Week 04 Review		Difference from Wk 3
Resident Case Count	135	-18
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	64.1	-8.5
Average Resident Cases per Day	19.3	-2.6
Percent Positivity	16.1%	-0.2

Data Source: Merlin Database

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with county COVID-19 data, including deaths.

Please visit the [COVID-19 Community Profile Report](#) webpage to obtain death data by downloading the most recent excel file and locating Okaloosa on the 'Counties' tab.

For questions related to COVID-19 death data, please contact the FDOH Office of Communications at 850-245-4111 or [NewsMedia@flhealth.gov](mailto:NewsMedia@flhealth.gov).

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS		
Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age	71.0%	73.2%
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	76.7%	77.3%
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	79.5%	78.9%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	95.0%	94.2%

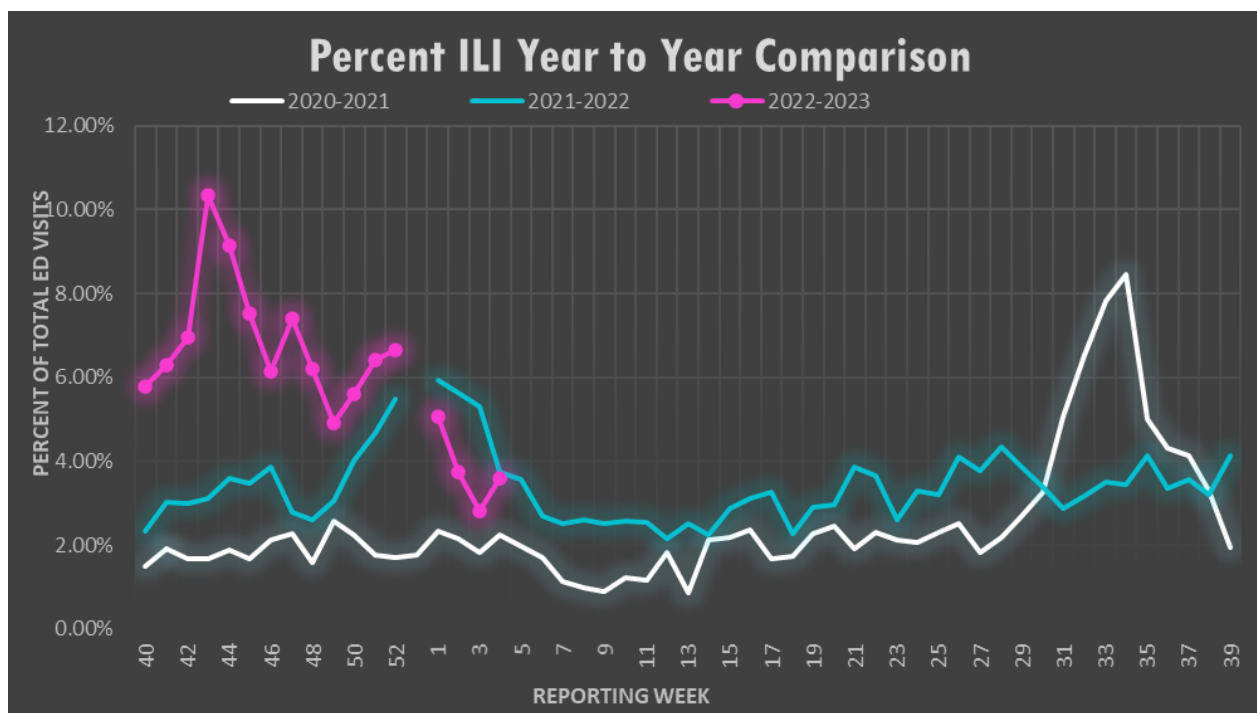
Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



# Influenza-Like Illness

Week 04: January 22 - January 28

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.



**Figure 2:** Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

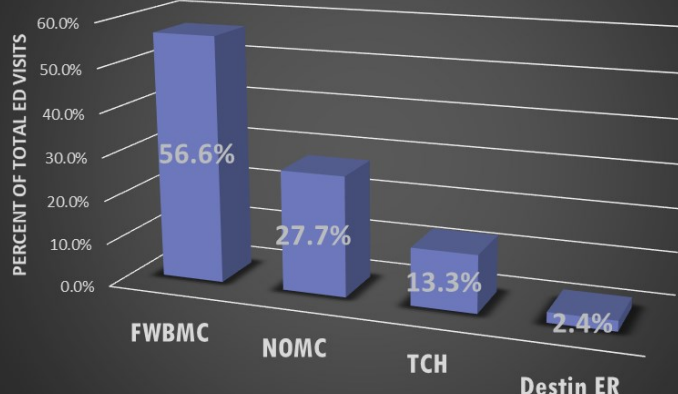
**ANALYSIS:** During Week 04, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported an increase in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County increased from 2.83% during Week 03 to 3.59% during Week 04. Flu partners reported 11 positive rapid flu tests this week (5 Influenza A and 6 Influenza B). Over the past three weeks, 12 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (7 Influenza A H3 and 5 Influenza A H1N1). There were no ILI admissions or deaths reported by flu partners this week. One outbreak has been reported in the past 3 weeks. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 04 is lower than that of Week 04 last year. *Note:* Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

## % ILI by Age Group Week 04, 2023

Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	31	163	19.02%
5-19	19	327	5.81%
20-34	15	467	3.21%
35-54	9	522	1.72%
55-74	7	503	1.39%
75+	2	329	0.61%

Data Source: ESSENCE

## % of Total ILI Visits by Facility Week 4, 2023



**Figure 3:** Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=83). Data source: ESSENCE



# Syndromic Surveillance

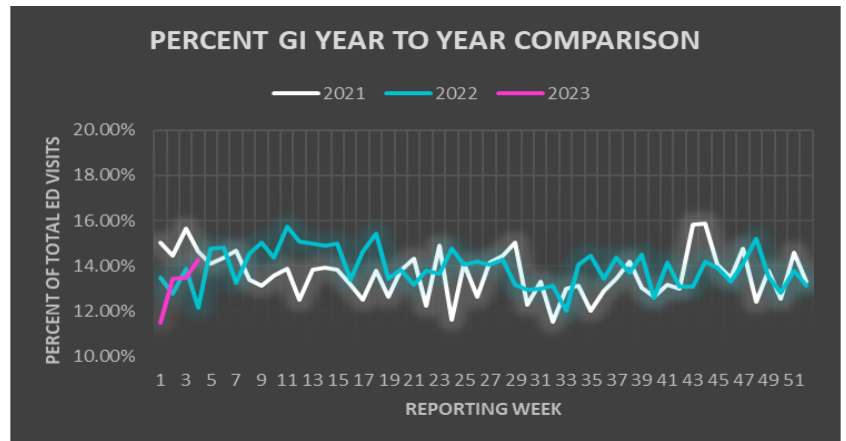
Week 04: January 22 - January 28

## Gastro-intestinal Illness (GI)

Figure 4:

Annual comparison for the percent of GI for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Data Source: ESSENCE

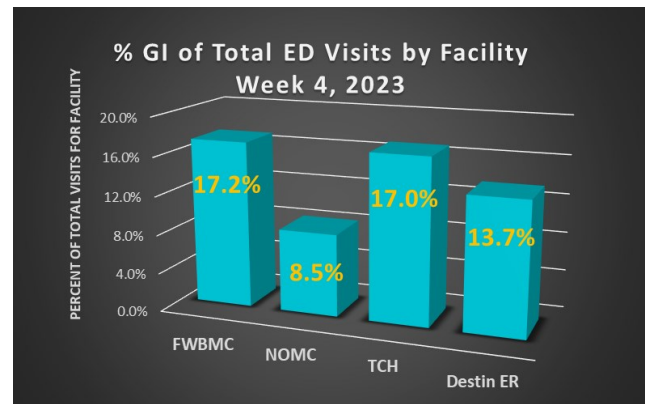


% GI by Age Group Week 04, 2023			
Age Range	GI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total GI Visits
0-4	32	163	19.63%
5-19	54	327	16.51%
20-34	81	467	17.34%
35-54	86	522	16.48%
55-74	50	503	9.94%
75+	27	329	8.21%

Figure 5:

Hospital emergency room visits due to GI illness stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE

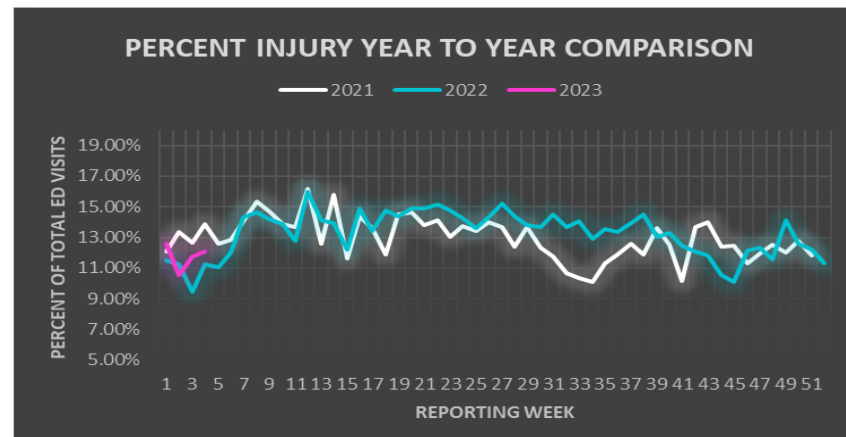


## Injury

Figure 6:

Annual comparison for the percent of Injury for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Data Source: ESSENCE

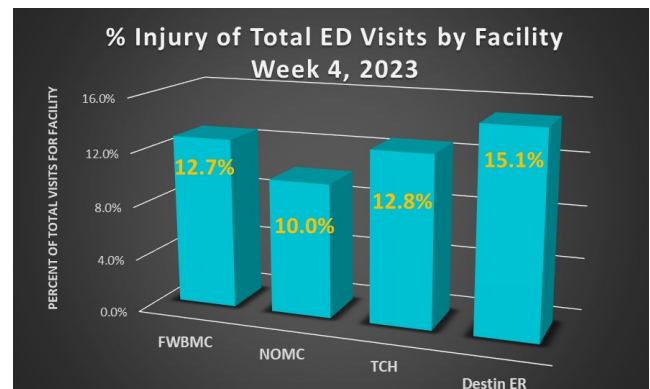


% Injury by Age Group Week 04, 2023			
Age Range	Injury Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total Injury Visits
0-4	11	163	6.75%
5-19	50	327	15.29%
20-34	51	467	10.92%
35-54	62	522	11.88%
55-74	60	503	11.93%
75+	45	329	13.68%

Figure 7:

Hospital emergency room visits due to Injury stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE



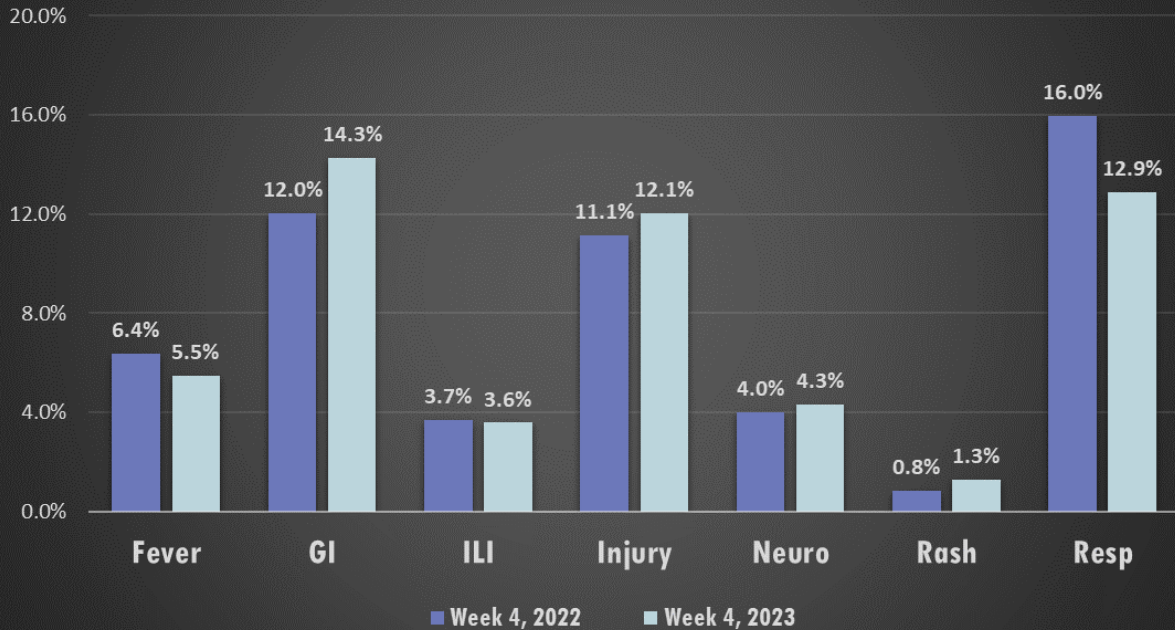




# Syndromic Surveillance

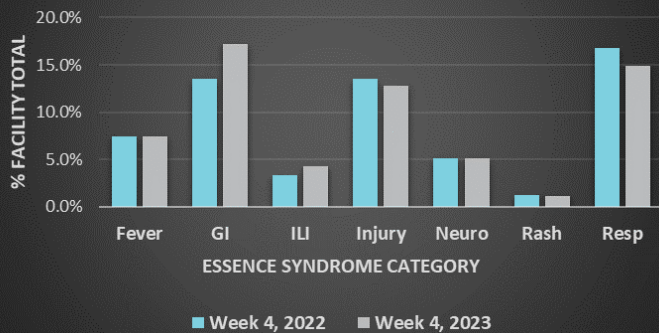
Week 04: January 22 - January 28

## Total ED Visits by Syndrome



**Figure 8:** Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2023 Week 04 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2314). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%.  
Data source: ESSENCE

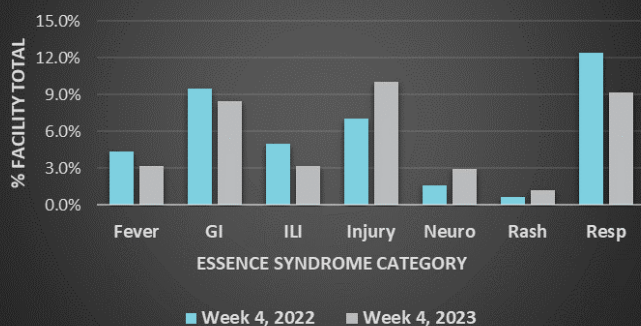
## Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



## Week 04- Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	43
5-19	GI	33
20-34	GI	53
35-54	GI	45
55-74	RESP	28
75+	INJURY	23

## North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



## Week 04- North Okaloosa Medical Center

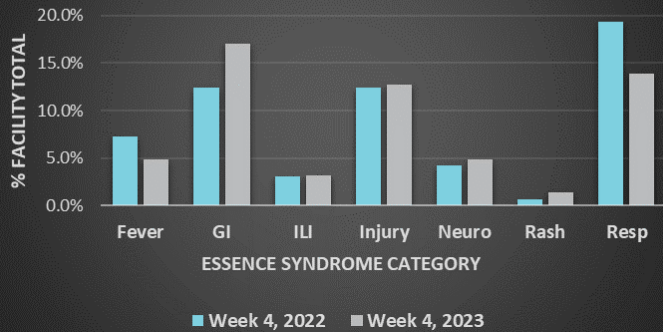
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	7
5-19	INJURY	14
20-34	RESP	13
35-54	INJURY	18
55-74	RESP	17
75+	INJURY	12



# Syndromic Surveillance

Week 04: January 22- January 28

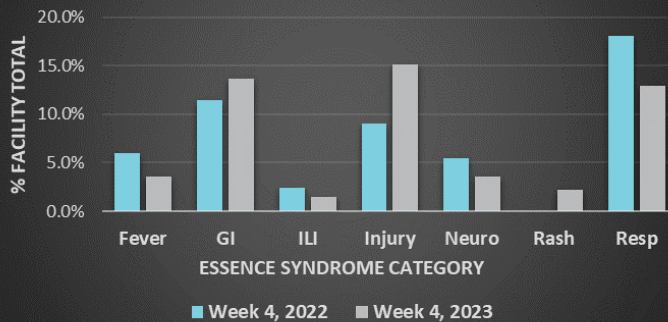
## Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



## Week 04- Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	6
5-19	GI, INJURY	9, 9
20-34	GI	14
35-54	GI	19
55-74	INJURY	11
75+	RESP	8

## DestinER ED Presentations



## Week 04- Destin ER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER, RESP	1, 1
5-19	INJURY	4
20-34	INJURY	4
35-54	GI	7
55-74	INJURY	7
75+	RESP	4

## Week 04—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	FEVER
5-19	RESP, GI
20-34	GI
35-54	GI
55-74	RESP
75+	INJURY



Data Source: ESSENCE